



SON-1112/DIV

PATENT APPLICATION

2872

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of) Group Art Unit: 2872
Nobuhiro KIHARA, et al.)
Application No.: 09/822,179)
Filed: April 2, 2001)
For: IMAGE RECORDING METHOD) Confirmation No. 8871
AND APPARATUS AND IMAGE)
REPRODUCING METHOD AND)
APPARATUS)

8/P
Audrey Y. Chang 5-6-03

RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 07

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action of April 14, 2003 (Paper No. 07). Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in that claims 1 to 24, acted upon by the Examiner unnecessarily, had been replaced by a preliminary amendment presenting claims 25 to 39, as acknowledged by the Examiner.

The pending claims correspond to claims 46 to 60, non-elected in the parent application, No. U.S. Pat. No. 6,236,475. However, it was unfortunately, apparently erroneously alleged that the Applicant had not responded to a Notice of non-compliance as mailed on April 9, 2002. The file of the undersigned contains a copy of a full and timely response to that paper.

Specifically, a LETTER responding to the points of non-compliance had apparently been filed on April 22, 2002. A true copy of that submission, along with a true copy of a Response to

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the Notice of Non-Compliance, together with a copy of pertinent portions of the filing log for that date are enclosed.

Furthermore, a copy of a postcard receipt prepared for filing with that packet is enclosed; the whereabouts of a stamped postcard receipt is unknown.

Acceptance of these papers as evidencing a timely filing of a full and timely response to the notice of non-compliance is solicited.

If accepted, this evidenced response overcomes the objection to the specification, and moots the rejections of claims 1 to 24 in that claims 25 to 39, corresponding to claims 46 to 60 from the parent, are presented in the application for action. If accepted, these papers also overcome the indefiniteness rejections and the art-based rejections of claims 1 to 24, and moot all such rejections.

Even if the proofs of the filing are deemed unacceptable and/or insufficient, then the deposit of the copy of the Response to the Notice of Non-compliance may be considered to perfect the preliminary amendment, so that claims 25 to 39 are pending for reconsideration.

It may further be observed that the Hotta patent, no. 5,504,593, the Molteni patent No. 5,663,815, and the Smith patent, No. 5,016,950 were pending in the parent application, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,236,475. Claims 25 to 39 pending as a result of that preliminary amendment correspond to claims 46 to 60 from the parent application, submitted in the response filed July 23, 1999. Those claims were withdrawn by the Examiner as drawn to a non-elected invention, according to the doctrine of original presentation.

Early Action on the pending claims 25 to 39, corresponding to non-elected claims 46 to 60 from the parent application is respectfully solicited.

If further matters remain, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to address remaining issues or provide

copies of papers not apparently fully before the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

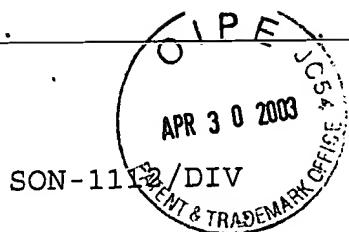
Date: April 30, 2003

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Divisional)
Patent Application of)
Serial No. 08/874,665) Group Art Unit: 2872
Nobuhiro KIHARA, et al.) Examiner: Chang, A.
Appln. No.: 09/822,179)
Filed: April 2, 2001)
For: IMAGE RECORDING METHOD)
AND APPARATUS AND IMAGE)
REPRODUCING METHOD AND)
APPARATUS)

RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The present application is a divisional of the Patent Application No. 08/874,665 filed June 13, 1997. In response to the Notice of Non-Compliance mailed April 9, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

B
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 74, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light inlet block 137A is used for routing the reference light to the recording medium for hologram 130. The reference light is incident on one end face of the light inlet block 147A. This light inlet block is supported by first thrusting roll 155A and a second thrusting roll 155B arranged on the object light incident on the reference light incident side. The first